

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q76597

Futoshi NAKAMURA, et al

Appln. No.: National Stage of PCT/JP2004/010271

Confirmation No.: Unknown

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Filed: January 12, 2006

Examiner: Unknown

For: MAGNETIC RECORDING MEDIUM USING GRAIN ISOLATION TYPE FILM AS
UNDER LAYER, METHOD OF MANUFACTURING THE SAME, AND MAGNETIC
RECORDING/REPRODUCING APPARATUS USING THE SAME

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
Appln. No.: National Stage of PCT/JP2004/010271
Attorney Docket No. Q76597

filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of an English-language International Search Report from the International Searching Authority in the International Application citing such documents, including at least that portion of the International Search Report indicating the degree of relevance found by the International Searching Authority and a copy of an English-language Written Opinion of the International Search Authority citing and discussing the documents.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following explanations: English language abstracts, submitted herewith, constitute concise statements of relevance for Japanese Patent Application Publication Nos. 2003-123245, 2003-36525, 2001-291230, 2004-220737, and 2002-133645. Furthermore, JP 2003-123245 A and JP 2001-291230 A correspond to U.S. 2003-170500 and U.S. 2001-36564, respectively. In addition, JP 2003-36525, JP 2002-133645 and JP 2001-291230 are cited and discussed in the present specification.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

10/564316

IAP15 Rec'd PCT/PTO 12 JAN 2006

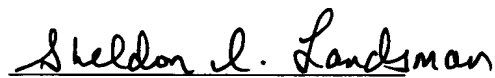
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Appln. No.: National Stage of PCT/JP2004/010271

Attorney Docket No. Q76597

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: January 12, 2006

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| Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO <u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</u> <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i> | | | | Complete if Known <div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; margin-left: 10px;">10/564316</div> | |
| | | | | Application Number | National Stage of PCT/JP2004/010271 |
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| | | | | First Named Inventor | Futoshi NAKAMURA |
| | | | | Art Unit | Unknown |
| | | | | Examiner Name | |
| | | | | Attorney Docket Number | Q76597 |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | | |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|---|--------------------------------|---|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document |
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| | | US 2003/0170500 | A1 | 09/11/2003 | KENJI SHIMIZU, ET AL |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
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| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | | | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Translation ⁶ |
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| | | JP | 2003-123245 | A | 04/25/2003 | SHOWA DENKO K.K. and TOKYO SHIBAURA ELECTRIC CO. | Abstract |
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| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--|--------------------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published. | Translation ⁶ |
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